(c) the reasons for the renewing Modiluft's licence;

(d) the other private airlines which are still operating without licence;

(e) the airlines which have not applied for fresh licences inspite of expiry of their licences along with the reasons therefor;

(f) the total private air-operators at present operating in the country and the number out of them which are under fault; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to allow more airlines to operate?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) M/s. Modiluft Airlines does not have the aircraft for operating air services, which is a prior requirement for renewal of the permit.

(d) No airlines can operate air transport services without a valid operating permit.

(e) None.

(f) Out of seven private scheduled airlines four are not operating at present.

(g) In April, 1997, a new policy on domestic air transport services was formulated which removed the barriers to entry and exist from this sector.

[Translation]

Farakka Barrage

1861. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to construction of Farakka Barrage on river Gangas in 1975, several lakh acres of land in nothern India has become barren as a result of which the movement of sea fishes in the river has stopped;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken or proposed to take any action to overcome this problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) No Sir. The aspect of migration of Hilsa fish through fish lock gates of the Farakka Barrage was investigated by Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute (CICFRI), Barrackpore. It was observed that the existing fish local gates of Farakka Barrage were inadequate for migration of hilsa fish across the barrage.

Accordingly, it was decided that a Hilsa hatchery alongwith ponds, laboratory, stores etc. be established on the left bank adjacent to Farakka Barrage. Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute (CICFRI) has started conducting research on breeding of Hilsa fish upstream of Farakka Barrage.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Examination Reforms

1862. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3519 dated March 17, 1997 regarding examination reforms and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The relevant information is still awaited from the University of Delhi and the University Grants Commission. Any further action in the matter would be possible only after the same is received. The Government has, however, initiated extensive dialogues on the subject of Examination Reforms generally.

[Translation]

Kendriya Vidyalayas

1863. SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH :
DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals relating to Kendriya Vidyalayas pending with the Government for approval, State-wise;

(b) the time by which approval is likely to be granted to them; and

(c) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas proposed to be set up in the Ninth Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) A Statement indicating the number of proposals received from sponsoring agencies and pending for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas in the Country (State-wise) is annexed.

(b) and (c) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened on the basis of receipt of suitable and complete proposals, inter alia, offering suitable land, temporary building and other infrastructural facilities from the user agencies. For 1997-98, 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned.